

RESOLUTION NO.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA,
ESTABLISHING IT'S SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUED
INCLUSION OF A LOCAL SOURCES FIRST POLICY IN
CHAPTER 373 ES. AND IT'S OPPOSITION TO ANY
AMENDMENT TO FLORIDA'S WATER RESOURCE
POLICY WHICH ALLOWS, ENCOURAGES OR
PROMOTES WATER TRANSFERS.**

WHEREAS, Florida's water resources are a natural resource and not a commodity to be sold or transferred to the highest bidder; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County have been staunch supporters of a State local sources first policy within Florida's Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County believe the continued retention of this policy is integral to protecting Florida's water resources and the development of long-term sustainable use without adversely impacting our unique natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County unanimously agrees with the Florida Association of Counties' support of the fundamental principles of Florida water law which requires a showing that a proposed use of water is a reasonable, beneficial use, will not interfere with an existing legal use of water, and is consistent with the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County supports the Florida Association of Counties' opposition to legislation that shifts water supply allocation from a publicly regulated process to a market driven process; and

WHEREAS the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County supports the Florida Association of Counties' opposition to legislation that undermines the fundamental principles of Florida Water Law which establishes a right-of-use — not a right-of-ownership; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County have recently seen documentation which indicates the Florida Council of 100 will request repeal or modification to Chapter 373 F.S. to eliminate the local-sources-first language; and

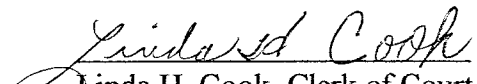
WHEREAS the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County wish to go on record early and unequivocally that such a proposal is ill considered and will put Florida's surface waters and aquifers at risk of irreparable damage for irresponsible short-term gain by limited special interest groups; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County believes that any discussion of regional water transfer is premature until Minimum Flows and Levels have been established for all of Florida's water resources.

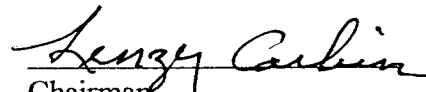
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Florida, in regular session this 18 day of September 2003, as follows: The Board of County Commissioners actively oppose any modification to Chapter 373 F.S. as it relates to the current local sources first policy and The Board of County Commissioners encourages all local government and elected officials to voice their opposition to their state elected officials and

1. Resolution shall be signed by the Chairman of the Board, and attested by the Clerk of the Board.
2. The Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to forward copies of this Resolution to: **the Washington County Legislative delegation; the Speaker of the House; President of the Senate; the Governor of the State of Florida; the County Commission of each of Florida's counties; the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority; the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council and each of its members; the Florida League of Cities; and the Florida Association of Counties.**

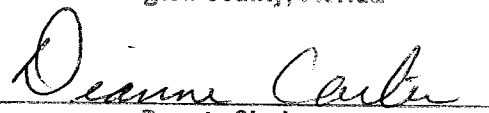
ATTEST:


Linda H. Cook, Clerk of Court

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA


Chairman

CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY
LINDA HAYES COOK, Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Washington County, Florida

BY 
Deputy Clerk